

## **General Education Committee (GEC)**

Minutes: Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2020 4:00 – 5:00 pm BUS 116

Present: John Belk, Carlos Bertoglio, Clint Broadbent, Anne Diekema, Randy Johnson, Jon Karpel, Katya Konkle, Johnny MacLean, Jason McCoy, Krystal McCoy, Julie Pynn, Neliya Romero, James Sage, Nathan Werner, Kristin Wiggins and Alison Adams

- I. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
  - A. Motion to approve John Belk, second Jon Karpel.
    - 1. Approved
- II. Conferences
  - A. What is an Educated Person? Offered virtually October 23<sup>rd</sup> and November 20<sup>th</sup>
  - B. AAC&U Virtual Conference on Global Learning
    - 1. We have funding for three individuals to attend.
    - 2. Let Krystal know if you'd like to attend.
  - C. GE and CETL: Global Learning CIG on hold.
    - 1. Hoping to offer at a future date.
  - D. Goals for Fall 2020
- III. Establish Work Group memberships
  - A. Curriculum Work Group
    - Nathan Werner(Chair), Jon Karpel, Randy Johnson, Kristen Wiggins, and Jason McCoy
  - B. Continual Improvement Work Group
    - 1. Julie Pynn (chair), Clint Broadbent, John Belk, Anne Diekema, Neliya Romero, and Carlos Bertoglio
- IV. Provost Anderson Introduction of GE Committee and Direction for this academic year
  - A. Be courageous and bold to address issues.
    - 1. GE Committee is the protector of the general/beginning experience that students have.
    - 2. What are we doing to help expand the mind of every student? Are we really providing them with a general education so they become an educated contributor to society.
    - 3. This committee should be helping ourselves and constituents understand the importance of general education.
    - 4. Can a program require or not require a specific a GE Course?
      - a. No program should have the capability to require a GE course in a specific area over another. If a program requires a certain level of math, we can hopefully advise students as they sequence through.
        - i) Completing GE should be separate from the BA/BS requirements and major requirements.
    - 5. We need to create opportunities for students to learn to think broadly and communicate with people who don't think the way they do.
- V. Speedway
  - A. Designed to serve a specific population, those students who need a degree but not a specific degree.
  - B. Looking at SUU students who have completed some credits, left the institution, and haven't finished a degree elsewhere.



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- C. Low-cost option Less than \$10,000 for the entire degree. 40 courses that are already developed to be online and fit within a General Studies degree. \$79/credit. Taught entirely by Adjuncts and Overloads.
- D. Speedway will be a separate market specifically for General Studies, no other degree programs will be offered.
- VI. Moving forward with our synerGE Mission
  - A. Thunder-U GE Table
    - 1. Need a better plan for next year
    - 2. What is our message what do we want to convey to students?
    - 3. Better looking table
      - a. Continual Improvement Workgroup come up with plans for a display work with Alison to procure and create.

## VII. Future Agenda Items

- A. Diversity Requirement
  - 1. Last year we began a robust discussion about achievement gaps among differing demographics. SUU gaps mirror the issues across the country.
  - 2. NWCCU has revised standards and now a substandard asks universities to dedicate effort to closing achievement and equity gaps.
  - 3. USHE transfer council is requesting that all institutions create a diversity requirement in GE.
    - a. Start thinking about what it could look like.

Meeting adjourned 4:46 pm